

[XXVth Year.]

T H S

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MARYLAND GAZETTE

F R I D A Y, JULY 21, 1780.

the MARYLAND GAZETTE. NUMBER X.

THE sleeping spirit of our country has been roused by some late circumstances in the course of our affairs. It was indeed high time that it should be roused. We had well nigh slept the sleep of death, being within a point of losing that independence for which we have fought. Had it not been for the delay of an enemy in the reduction of Charles-town, the every of the continental troops, the alacrity, almost unparalleled valour of the Jersey militia, in sustaining the inroad of Knyphausen, the restraint laid upon the movements of the enemy, by the expectation of the fleet of our country, the enemy might have been in a fair way at this time, to have driven our little army from the field, and to extend their despotic empire over several of the middle states.

The danger is greatly lessened, now that we have known the danger; it arises not so much from the efforts of the enemy, as from our own dilgence. We are now sensible of our remissness in council and in action; and vigilance succeeds to stupor, and heroism to a vain pillow ourselves on the idea of a peace. But the chief is, we shall soon be disposed to fall asleep again. We shall remit the steady stroke of the sword, and be ready to be bound with the chains of servitude.

It seems to me that in the public measures of this country, we have been disposed to take for aera truths, to be applied to all cases, those words of the scripture, "sufficient for the day is the evil thereof," and "take no thought for the morrow, for the morrow will take thought for the things of itself." For otherwise why is that, from the commencement of the war, temporary expedients alone have been adopted? Every year of the war has been thought to be the last, and provision has been made only for that year. To recount these instances of short sighted politics would be endless; these in public councils will re-collect them for themselves, and will be a lesson to deter them from the like for the future.

It is proper that some regular system be adopted, and pursued, which shall comprehend the compass of more than one campaign; that this summer we provide for the wants of next winter, and next winter for the wants of the succeeding summer; that each day be no longer left to depend on its own expedients. To look forward to the conduct of every statesman.

It is in vain to hope that the exertions of private virtue, however laudable, will yield more than a temporary support to our interests. Unless in the mean time a system in our finances is actually and fully established, these efforts will prove but a fever of the constitution; they will excite the spirits to flow for a while, but they will shortly subside, and leave paleness and languor behind them. Nay, if these exertions shall be a means to betray the public councils into security, leaving them to depend on these, the very excellence will be turned into bane, and it will be the language of experience, that it were better they had never been. Nothing but elastic gear in the great springs of the machinery; nothing but the strength of the continent connected by the great belt that connects us; nothing but the resources of this country drawn into action, by the states met in congress, can preserve our independence, and carry us through the war. The virtue of a country discoverable in particular instances, forms often the brightest page in history; but if it is collected and preferred by the public authority, like powder set on fire, in the open air, it spends its force and operation.

The congress, and the legislatures of the several states must exert that power with which they are intrusted. What have we not suffered from the blameable negligence of some states, to send aid early to the southward? The war which might have been terminated, this campaign, has derived strength to exist several years, and we still suffer from the obstinacy and selfishness of others, to adopt and comply with the requisitions of congress? The wheels of public measures have been in all places well nigh

at a stand, and shortly about to stop altogether. Great exertions are necessary to great exigencies, and it will be happy for the people of this continent, if it may be true with regard to us, that, "as our day is, so shall our strength be."

AN ANTI-ANGELICAN.

A LETTER from a lady in Philadelphia to her friend in this place.
Philadelphia, June 20, 1780.

MADAM,

THE American women have long aspired to the honour of giving the soldiers of the continental army some public mark of the esteem they entertain of their virtue; They have manifested this disposition throughout the Thirteen United States. Many amongst them, desirous to render a subscription more general, more useful, and more uniform, have wished a plan to be agreed upon, and the manner of executing it to be generally known. Being one of the states neighbouring to the theatre of war, we have hastened to form the desired association, the success has answered our expectations, and there are few on this occasion who have not cheerfully given marks of their attachment to the cause, defended by our brave soldiers. We are not unacquainted with the sentiments of the American women in the other states, and we hope you will not disapprove our sending you an account of the steps we have taken; such alteration may be made in these as the difference of places and circumstances may render necessary, but this account will serve at least to mark the outlines of a plan which we prefer to you.

The sentiments of an American woman were published in our Gazette of the 15th of this month; the day following several ladies assembled; it was proposed to have the city divided into ten districts, nearly equal in extent, and to invite three or four ladies in each of these districts to go to every house in their ward, to present to each woman and girl, without any distinction, a paper, one of which you will find enclosed. This proposal having met with approbation, forty ladies received their invitation; notwithstanding the fatigues and cares which it was natural to think would accompany such an employment, they were pleased with the task, and considered it as a great honour. These who were in the country returned without delay to the city to fulfil their duty; others put off their departure; those whose state of health was the most delicate, found strength in their patriotism; one lady, full as anxious as the others to discharge the patriotic task, was unhappy at having an infant too young to leave, which she nursed herself, but was soon relieved from her distress by a lady who was not yet out of her chamber, generously offering to nurse it during her absence.

The day following the invitation, the ladies set out on foot; they went two or three together, as they found it most agreeable to themselves, observing to keep exactly in the ward assigned them; as the cause of their visit was known, they were received with all the respect due to so honourable a commission.

They have not omitted one house, not even those of the persons who from their religious principles would not take any part in the war. We cannot tell you what has been their conduct on this occasion, but will confine ourselves to assure you, that we are convinced that nothing is more easy than to reconcile a beneficent scheme with a beneficent religion. There were some individuals, with whose necessities we were acquainted, and we wished not to give them the pain of refusing; they guessed our intention, they prevented our passing them, and indignance itself discovered generosity in spite of us.

An aged woman, in circumstances not easy, had been omitted through forgetfulness in one of our districts; she came with tears in her eyes to present her offering, complaining at the same time with moderation, that she had not been admitted to the honour of uniting her feeble efforts to those of her fellow-citizens; we made her a visit to repair our fault; we found with her a niece who offered in the labours of her hands, telling us with as much grace as candour, that there might be presented to us richer offerings, but none with more good will.

A subscription so general and beneficent, we hope will produce the happy effect of destroying intestine discords, even to the very last seeds.

It is an honour to the women of America, as it evinces dispositions of reconciliation, which must greatly promote the public cause, and blast the hopes of the enemies of our country; whose expectations of conquest are more founded in divisions of America, than in any superiority of strength or courage. Whilst we are collecting a seasonable offering for the encouragement of the soldiers of the United States, we at the same time give some of our female fellow-citizens an opportunity of relinquishing former errors, and of avowing a change of sentiments by their contributions to the general cause of liberty and their country; being born Americans, they could not see so laudable a design in agitation, without desiring to partake the glory. A young girl offered us a small sum which she had just received; we requested her name; she refused to give it, under the pretext that the sum was too small; at length she told us her mother was a Tory; we informed her we knew of none such in America; she then gave us her name, telling us that she was proud to see it on our list; and though no person should be ashamed of so good a cause, others, from a principle of modesty, did not chuse to be named, we put their sums on our list without saying from whom it came. Several bachelors begged to have the honour of subscribing, thinking it the best means to recommend themselves to their favourite ladies; we did not refuse, but made them a visit to receive their offerings from their own hands.

I have been thus particular, as I know your feelings would harmonize with mine on the present occasion.

I sincerely wish you all happiness, and am,
Dear madam,
Your ever affectionate friend.

From the LONDON GAZETTE, April 18.
At the court of St. James's, April 17, 1780.

P R E S E N T,

The KING's most excellent majesty in council.

WHEREAS since the commencement of the war in which Great-Britain is engaged by the unprovoked aggression of France and Spain, repeated memorials have been presented by his majesty's ambassador to the states general of the United Provinces, demanding the succours stipulated by treaty; to which requisition, though strongly called upon in the last memorial of the 21st of March, their high mightiness have given no answer, nor signified any intention of complying therewith; and whereas by the non-performance of the clearest engagements, they desert the alliance that has so long subsisted between the crown of Great-Britain and the republic, and place themselves in the condition of a neutral power, bound to this kingdom by no treaty, every principle of wisdom and justice requires, that his majesty should consider them henceforward as standing only in that distant relation in which they have placed themselves; his majesty therefore, having taken this matter into his royal consideration, doth, by and with the advice of his privy council, judge it expedient to carry into immediate execution those intentions which were formerly notified in the memorial presented by his ambassador on the 21st of March last, and previously signified in an official verbal declaration, made by lord viscount Stormont, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, to count Weidenre, envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary from the republic, nearly two months before the delivery of the aforesaid memorial: for these causes his majesty, by and with the advice of his privy council, doth declare, that the subjects of the United Provinces are henceforward to be considered upon the same footing with those of other neutral states; not privileged by treaty; and his majesty doth hereby suspend, provisionally, and till further order, all the particular stipulations respecting the freedom of navigation and commerce, in time of war, of the subjects of the states general, contained in the several treaties now subsisting between his majesty and republic, and more particularly those contained in the marine treaty between Great-Britain and the